

California University JOURNAL

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Chick-Fil-A Express to Open on Campus

Responding to student requests for a quick-service restaurant option on campus, Cal U is preparing to welcome a Chick-fil-A Express.

The outlet is scheduled to open Aug. 29, the first day of fall classes, on the first level of the Natali Student Center.

Students, University employees and members of the community will be able to purchase Chick-fil-A's



famous chicken sandwiches, chicken nuggets, waffle potato fries, fresh salads, freshly squeezed lemonade and other menu items.

Business hours will be 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Community residents are welcome

to drop by; metered parking for visitors is available in Lot 17, immediately behind the student center.

The new Chick-fil-A Express adds another student-friendly amenity to Cal U's student center, which was re-dedicated in 2015 after a two-year renovation and expansion.

Savanna Carroll, a senior business economics major, said she noticed a number of positive responses from fellow students on social media. The announcement on Cal U's official Facebook page reached more than 42,000 people.

"Having a Chick-fil-A on campus is an amazing addition to our campus dining services and gives us students something we know and love," she said. "I think this adds value to an already great university."

Cal U will be one of five universities in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education to offer Chick-fil-A on campus. AVI Foodsystems Inc., the University's dining services provider, describes it as "a perfect complement to the culinary choices on the Cal U campus."

One staff member looking forward to the new dining venue is Regina Masar '01, a fiscal technician in the Bursar's Office.

"I really like Chick-fil-A's nuggets and waffle fries," she said. "Being able to get their food right at the student center will be very convenient and something I know our office will take advantage of."

The Natali Student Center also houses the Gold Rush dining hall, where all-you-care-to-eat options include a wide variety of American and world cuisines; Fresh, which serves made-to-order wraps and salads; the Modco coffee bar; the V-Bar, a pub-style location serving foods from around the world; and Frye, which offers gourmet burgers, specialty sandwiches and panini.

Coffee, breakfast and lunch items also are available at the Sycamore Bistro, located beside the Heron Recreation and Fitness Center on campus.

"Students have been asking for a fast-food option for quite some time," said Dr. Nancy Piarodi, vice president for Student Affairs. "Chick-fil-A is not only an industry leader, but a name our students recognize. I believe they'll be pleased to see the new Chick-fil-A Express at Cal U."



Volunteers will help students and their families move into the main-campus residence halls Aug. 28-28.

Cal U Community Ready for Students' Return

With fall semester classes set to begin Aug. 29, the Cal U community will welcome first-year and returning students as they move into University housing during the week of Aug. 21-28.

New and returning students are expected to arrive at Vulcan Village, on the upper campus, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily throughout the week.

On the main campus, Move-In Day for first-year students will be Aug. 26. New students whose last names begin with letters A-M are scheduled to arrive between 9 a.m. and noon. Others will move in between noon and 3 p.m.

Volunteers will be on hand at the main-campus

residence halls to greet incoming students and their families, and to help carry their belongings to their rooms.

Move-In Day 2016 will begin the eighth annual Cal U for Life New Student Orientation, a student-focused experience that closes with a core values candlelight ceremony and fireworks on Aug. 28. The three-day program helps freshmen and transfer students meet their classmates and discover the programs and services offered at Cal U.

Move-In-Day activities include a picnic-style lunch for new students and their families from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

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Cal U Welcomes New Coach

Noting his commitment to both academic and athletic success, University President Geraldine M. M. Jones welcomed Kent McBride as head coach of the men's basketball program.

McBride, 33, joins Cal U after guiding the team at Concord (W.Va.) College, his alma mater, for the past five seasons.

"Coach McBride challenges his players to perform at the highest level, in the classroom and in the community," President Jones said at the June 2 news conference in the Natali Student Center.

"He focuses first on attitude... on creating a culture of athletic excellence within a framework of academic success. I am certain that Coach McBride will be a role model for our student-athletes, working just as hard as they do to make our men's basketball program a success."

Last season McBride coached Concord to a 22-10 overall record. The Mountain Lions won the Mountain East Conference Tournament title and made their first NCAA Division II Tournament appearance in 18 years.

Two years ago McBride was named the MEC Coach of the Year after leading Concord to a 20-8 overall record.

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University President Geraldine M. Jones welcomes Kent McBride as Cal U's new men's basketball coach at a news conference last month.



Cal U students from the Horticulture Club, along with Student Association Inc. staff and other volunteers, have planted 42 fruit trees at SAI Farm, which will help to stock the campus food pantry and contribute to the region's food supply.

Students Plant 42 Fruit Trees at Upper-campus SAI Farm

Cal U has planted an orchard. And the fruit will help to stock the campus food pantry and contribute to the region's food supply.

On May 12 students from the Horticulture Club assisted SAI staff and other volunteers with planting 42 fruit trees at SAI Farm. The apple, cherry, pear, peach and plum trees were provided through a grant from the Pittsburgh-based Fruit Tree Planting Foundation.

Dr. Sarah Meiss, of the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, worked for three years to obtain the grant and coordinated the project with SAI.

"I saw the potential community and educational opportunities," said Meiss, who is the Horticulture Club's advisor. The orchard will provide hands-on educational opportunities for Cal U students while reinforcing lessons in subjects ranging from botany to community engagement.

"I'm always looking to develop professionally," said rising sophomore Eric McRae, an environmental sciences major who came out to volunteer. It was his first experience with planting a tree.

"It's cool that we're using the (SAI Farm) facility for students who want to learn."

In addition to the new orchard, the SAI Farm includes a renovated farmhouse that serves as a meeting space, an outdoor pavilion, a disc golf course, hiking trails, a biodiversity area and more. Produce from a vegetable garden, also maintained by Meiss and the Horticulture Club, has found its way into meals served at the Sycamore Bistro.

Fruit from the orchard eventually will follow a similar path. As the trees mature, the harvest is expected to supply fresh fruit for the Cal U Cupboard campus food pantry and other community efforts, along with providing fundraising opportunities to sustain the Horticulture Club.

The young trees may produce a small harvest this year, and the orchard should be in full production within three to five years, Meiss said. Fruit trees can live for decades, with some apple trees producing well into their second century.

Rising sophomore Kristine Lype, a biology major with a chemistry minor, volunteered to plant trees after taking Meiss's botany class. She likes the idea

of sharing the harvest with food pantries.

"It's nice to learn how to plant a tree," she said. "And there's nothing better to give other people than fruit."

Cem Akin, executive director of the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation, taught the students about proper planting techniques and guided their work as the trees were installed. Foundation staff will return to teach students how to prune and care for the trees as they grow.

Cal U's grant application checked all the foundation's boxes, Akin said.

"It's such a multifaceted project here. First, it's a beautiful, well maintained property. Then there's the nutrition aspect with the food bank, and also the educational component — using the orchard as a teaching tool to inspire environmentalism."

The Foundation has a waiting list of more than 1,000 applications worldwide, but "this was a no-brainer," Akin said. "It passed with flying colors. We're honored to be here."

To learn more about hands-on education at Cal U and its Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, visit www.calu.edu.

GIS Club Joins Global Mapping Project

Students in the Cal U GIS Club will join university students from around the world to update OpenStreetMap, an interactive, editable global mapping program that is being used in crisis response and international humanitarian aid efforts.

The OpenStreetMap program was founded by Texas Tech University in 2015. Just seven months after its creation, university students worldwide have used open spatial data to make more than 1 million edits to the mapping program.

The OpenStreetMap program was founded by Texas Tech University in 2015. Just seven months after its creation, university students worldwide have used open spatial data to make more than 1 million edits to the mapping program.

Students in Cal U's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Club have joined the inaugural YouthMappers network of chapters dedicated to supporting the project. So far, the network includes 27 universities in 11 countries. Cal U is the only Pennsylvania university among that group, which includes American universities such as George Mason, Kansas State, Clemson and Cornell.

"The program seeks not just to build maps, but to build mappers, supporting universities and colleges to offer meaningful global learning experiences," according to a Texas Tech news release.

Other goals are to "create geospatial data where it is needed most; build a socially engaged citizenry; enhance long-term scientific capacity throughout the world; and foster youth exchange and leadership."

Dr. Thomas Mueller, a professor in the Department of Earth Sciences and a GIS expert, says the club will begin work on the "humanitarian mapping" project this fall.

Support for the program comes from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) through a grant from the U.S. Global Development Lab's GeoCenter. Founding partners are Texas Tech, George Washington University and West Virginia University.

To date, the 1 million edits to OpenStreetMap have helped to improve food security in Asia, malaria prevention and control in Africa and disaster preparation and assistance in South America. In some areas, remote mapping is being supplemented by USAID and Peace Corps volunteers, who add their local knowledge.

"All new data created by YouthMappers is open and accessible to the public using the OpenStreetMap platform and tools to ensure it is freely available for the greater public good, particularly local populations planning for the welfare and vitality of their own communities," according to the news release.

"Open spatial data created will be used in meaningful research and analysis to directly address specific international development challenges. Students gain new skills and also can use this data in their own research in a great variety of studies on issues that lend themselves to be visualized through mapping."

Learn more about YouthMappers at www.youthmappers.org.

Cal U Offers Discount to Veterans

Cal U is trimming the cost of higher education for military veterans and their families.

Beginning with the Fall 2016 semester, tuition costs will be discounted for veterans of all U.S. military branches, and their spouses and eligible dependents, when they enroll in Cal U Global Online, the University's 100 percent online learning community. Undergraduates seeking an associate or bachelor's degree through Global Online will pay a reduced rate of \$250 per credit. Master's degree students will pay \$399 per credit, or 90 percent of the in-state rate, no matter where they reside.

The discount for veterans mirrors the reduced tuition rate for active-duty military members that Cal U first offered in summer 2014. Since its inception, the program for active-duty military has increased online enrollment by service members and their families by more than 80 percent.

For more information about the tuition discount for veterans at California University of Pennsylvania, visit www.calu.edu/go, e-mail the Cal U Global Online office at calgo@calu.edu, or call 724-938-5958 or 866-595-4348.



Beginning with the Fall 2016 semester, Cal U is trimming the cost of higher education for military veterans and their families.

Fiscal Year Closes with Budget Surplus

Although questions about the 2016-2017 budget remain, Cal U's financial picture for 2015-2016 is considerably brighter than anticipated. In her report at the June 1 quarterly meeting of the Council of Trustees, University President Geraldine M. Jones announced that Cal U anticipates ending the fiscal year with a surplus of \$4.2 million — a forecast significantly rosier than the balanced budget projected at the Trustees' previous public meeting, in March.

Contributing to the "dramatic change" was an increase of nearly \$1.5 million in state appropriations, the President said, along with an increase of about \$550,000 in revenue from student fees, a reduction of nearly \$1.5 million in personnel expenses made possible by retirements and resignations, overload and FTE reductions, and workforce changes; and \$400,000 in savings on operating expenses.

"While this (surplus) is exciting news, we must be mindful that the 2015-2016 budget received a one-time infusion of \$5.5 million when prior-year housing profits were recorded as 'other revenue,'" President Jones pointed out.

"We have worked hard to create a sound financial plan for the University, but additional work remains."

The precise amount of the surplus will be determined when Cal U's financial statements are finalized in August. The surplus will be added to the University's E&G fund balance, also known as unrestricted net assets.

The budget announcement came at the Trustees' first public meeting since the Board of Governors for Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education unanimously approved Jones as the University's seventh president.

"It is my intention to keep our University moving forward along a path



Enrollment in Cal U's Summer College has increased 1.6 percent.

that not only addresses our current concerns, but also positions Cal U for a strong and stable future," she said.

Council chair Lawrence Maggi noted that plans are under way for a Presidential inauguration ceremony on Oct. 14.

"We look forward to this new era," he said. "While we have our challenges, we are also excited about the many good, positive things happening here as we move ahead."

In other business: • Dr. Bruce Barnhart, acting provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, reported that Summer College enrollment has increased by 1.6 percent compared to this time last year. More than 300 sections of 216 courses are being offered. Students also are using the summer months to complete internships and fieldwork.

Barnhart also reported on the Finish Line degree-completion program, which

has enrolled 315 students and added 200 FTE since it November debut; and the Recommend a Vulcan initiative, which has enrolled 235 students (134 FTE) referred to Admissions by a member of the Cal U community.

In his role as temporary marketing director, Barnhart also reported on Cal U's spring media plan and provided an update on work with the consulting firm Ruffalo Noel-Levitz, which is helping the University to develop a strategic enrollment plan and redesign the Cal U website.

In addition to providing a more detailed look at the 2015-2016 budget, Robert Thorn, vice president for Administration and Finance, presented the annual inspection of facilities report to the Trustees.

Despite Cal U's growth, 14 buildings on campus have not been renovated

during the last 35 years or more, he said.

Cover Hall is the next building scheduled to receive a life-cycle renovation. The project is in the detailed design stage, with construction scheduled for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The building will be vacated during the renovation, with students and professors expected to reoccupy Cover's classrooms and laboratories by spring 2019.

• Dr. Nancy Finardi, vice president for Student Affairs, focused on the success of the varsity athletic programs.

She introduced athletics director Dr. Karen Hjerpe and sports information director Matt Kiefer, who recapped the Vulcans' sports and scholastic success.

Team highlights included PSAC championships won by the women's tennis and basketball teams. Cal U finished third in the race for the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference's Dixon Trophy, awarded annually to the most successful all-around program.

For the Spring 2016 semester, the cumulative grade-point average of Cal U's intercollegiate student-athletes was 3.21. In 12 of the past 13 semesters, the Vulcans' overall GPA was 3.10 or higher. • Tony Maurs, associate vice president for University Development and Alumni Relations, reported that his office has raised more than \$3.5 million in donations and pledges in the fiscal year that began July 1, 2015. This total includes more than \$2.2 million in cash donations.

He also reported on upcoming events, including the third annual President's Showcase, set for Family Day, Sept. 17. After a fundraising reception, some of Cal U's most talented alumni, students and faculty will appear onstage to benefit the Student Scholarship Fund for Academics, Arts and Athletics.

The Trustees are scheduled to meet again Sept. 21.

Cal U Eager to Welcome Back Students

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Aug. 26 in the Convocation Center. University President Geraldine M. Jones plans to drop by and chat informally with the Cal U community's newest members.

"Move-In Day is a great tradition here at Cal U, and a wonderful opportunity for us to connect with our new students and their families," the President said.

"The friendly assistance provided by our student volunteers, and the support of our faculty, staff and administrators sets the tone for the academic year. It shows our students that we truly care about them."

Returning students will move in to main-

campus housing from noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 28. Volunteers will welcome them back and help to move their belongings.

Returning students who are interested in attending the California Borough Recreation Authority's fourth annual River Fest, which takes place in town Aug. 27-28, may move in to their residence halls between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Aug. 27. Meal plans will not be in effect until Aug. 28, however, so those students will need to use Dine Dollars for on-campus dining on Aug. 27.

As it becomes available, parking information and other details about Move-In-Day and the 2016 New Student Orientation will be posted at www.calu.edu.

Student, Employee Volunteers Sought

Students who volunteer to assist their new or returning classmates will be registered through OrySyn so their service can be reflected on their official Activities Transcript. Students who volunteer on Aug. 26 will receive Move-In Day T-shirts; volunteers on Aug. 28 are urged to wear Cal U gear or a T-shirt representing their student organization, fraternity, sorority or athletic team. For more information, students can visit OrySyn or e-mail the team for Volunteer Programs and Service Learning at volunteers@calu.edu.

Employees are encouraged to welcome new and returning students and their families, if their work schedule allows. Employees may ask their supervisor for release time to assist on Aug. 26, or they may volunteer on Aug. 28. (No compensatory time will be given.)

Professors Estill certified

Dr. Michele Pagen, co-chair of the Department of Music and Theatre, has become a certified master teacher for Estill Voice Training, which provides vocal training for singers, actors, public speakers and others who wish to preserve vocal health and make the most of their voices.

Pagen joins Brian Eistimming, a faculty member in the department's theater program, as the second Estill master teacher on campus. Because of their certification, Cal U now is recognized as an Estill Educational Affiliate, joining a select group of colleges and universities worldwide.

The theater program uses the Estill model as the vocal foundation for all student actors, singers and non-singers alike. Cal U also has hosted Estill Level I and II courses each summer since 2007.

Learn more at estillvoice.com/pages/california-university-of-pennsylvania



Cal U Helps Improve Summer Celebrations

Cal U students (from left) Jessica Jacobs, Hayley Walters, Anisa Miller and Katelyn Klenk take a break while conducting an attendee and spectator study for the 2016 Pittsburgh Three Rivers Regatta Inc. Susan Ryan, director of the Cal U Tourism Research Center, was contacted by Pittsburgh Three Rivers Regatta Inc. to perform the study, which was conducted July 4 at the EQI Flashes of Freedom fireworks display. One of the main purposes of the survey, which was funded by a grant, is to create a profile for the typical attendee and spectator for existing and potential event sponsors. The Cal U team will also collect data at the regatta, Aug. 5-7.



Students from the Mon Valley Performing Arts Academy will conclude their summer experience performance of 'James and the Giant Peach Jr.' at 4 p.m. July 30.

'James and Giant Peach' Onstage

The Mon Valley Performing Arts Academy, now in its 19th year, will wrap up its 2016 summer theater experience for young performers with a fully staged production of the children's tale "James and the Giant Peach Jr."

The public is welcome to attend the show at 4 p.m. July 30 in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre.

Hosted by Cal U's Department of Music and Theatre, the academy gives students ages 8-17 an opportunity to study musical theater.

After acting, voice and dance classes and rehearsals, students present a musical complete with stage sets, costumes and props.

More than 30 MVPs — Mon Valley Performers — are participating in this year's academy, which began July 18. Students study and rehearse from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays.

Adapted from British author Roald Dahl's 1961 novel, "James and the Giant Peach" follows the adventures of James, an orphaned

British boy. It was made into a Disney movie in 1996.

The Mon Valley Performing Arts Academy is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre, the same organization that has accredited Cal U's Bachelor of Arts in Theatre program since 2005.

The performance is open to the public. Ticket price is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. Tickets may be purchased at the door. To order tickets in advance, leave a message at 724-938-4220.

Cal U Welcomes Basketball Coach

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"When student-athletes dedicate themselves to giving their very best, winning on the court will be a byproduct of that commitment," he said.

"Everybody wants to win right away, and we are no different. But we will not skip any steps. You have to win the small battles first, and we want to make sure our student-athletes do the right things every day."

McBride replaces Bill Brown, who coached the Vulcans for 20 years and retired with a program-best 365 career victories.

"Coach Brown established a program that was known across the conference, region and country, and a lot of credit is owed to him," McBride said. "He helped to create a tradition and history. I don't look to overcome it but rather stand behind it, continue it and try to improve it slowly."

McBride, who graduated from Concord in 2006, was a four-year starting point guard. In his senior season he ranked 15th in the nation, with 6.0 assists per game.

Before taking over as Concord's head coach, he was an assistant coach at West Virginia Wesleyan College from 2006-2008 and the assistant head coach at Greenville State during the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 seasons.

McBride said he felt warmly welcomed at Cal U. "Everyone has a smile on their face and are very supportive," he said, adding that he will be moving to the area with his wife, Holly, and their 20-month-old son, Campbell.

"We are going to work hard and commit to putting out a product that the campus and community will be proud of. ... We will bring more of an up-tempo pace than is seen in the PSAC, which usually has more of a methodical, half-court style. It's proven successful for us."

On hand for the new coach's introduction was Shea Fleenor '98, a special education teacher and the boys basketball coach at Albert Gallatin High School, near Uniontown, Pa.

Fleenor, a native of Beckley Springs, W. Va., was a starter on Cal U's 1996 NCAA Division II national semifinalist team. His younger brother, Brandon, was McBride's teammate and roommate for one year at Concord.

"I am excited about the style and attitude that Kent McBride is going to bring to our program," Fleenor said.

"I believe he will bring in players that resembled him as a player, with a relentless desire and work ethic. He will get people fired up here."

President Jones told the new coach to expect to see her and her husband, Jeffrey, in the stands during the upcoming season.

"Coach McBride knows that ultimately our goal is to prepare every Cal U student, including our student-athletes, for a purposeful life and a meaningful career," she said.

"I've often said that Cal U changes lives — and the coach and I agree that college basketball can be a catalyst for that change. We are excited about this new era, and I'm looking forward to some exciting Vulcan basketball."

GRANTS AWARDED

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research reports that:

- Two faculty members from the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences have been awarded grants for stream mitigation projects. Dr. David Argent has been awarded \$284,836, and Dr. Robert Whyte has been awarded \$60,138. Both grants are from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

- Debbie Wojcik, of the Government Agency Coordination Office (GACO), has been awarded a Procurement Technical Assistance grant of \$220,215 from the Defense Logistics Agency. This award will be used to continue the services that help business owners to obtain government contracts.

Cal U also received a grant of \$130,000 from the Sarah Scaife Foundation to support its Government Agency Coordination Office.

- Dr. Thomas Mueller, of the Department of Earth Sciences, has been awarded a grant of \$23,500 from AmericaView. This funding will continue to provide education and enhance student access to satellite data. AmericaView is a nationwide partnership of scientists who use public-domain satellite data and technologies in support of applied research, K-16 education, workforce development and technology transfer.

- Dr. Susan Ryan, of the Department of Earth Sciences, has received \$11,500 in additional funding from the Gettysburg Travel Council to continue her work with Destination Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The funds will be used to continue the Adams County-wide intercept survey and perform data collection and reporting for the Gettysburg visitor intercept survey.

Ryan also was awarded a \$5,824 grant from the 2016 Three Rivers Regatta. The funding was used to create and disperse a survey instrument and analyze data from surveys distributed to visitors during the 2016 regatta.

- Dr. Sheri Boyle, of the Department of Social Work, has been awarded a \$6,000 grant from Connect Inc. to perform statistical analysis.

- Dr. Gregg Gould, of the Department of Chemistry and Physics, has been awarded \$5,535 from the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh. This funding will be used to purchase electrochemical instrumentation for students performing research projects.

- Dr. David Argent, of the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, has been awarded \$4,594 from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the Sampling for the Eastern Brook Trout in Four Counties of Southwestern Pennsylvania project.

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Geraldine M. Jones
University President

Robert Thorn
Vice President for Administration and Finance

Christine Kindl
Editor

Dr. Bruce Barnhart
Acting Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Nancy Pinardi
Vice President for Student Affairs

Bruce Wald, Wendy Mackall, Jeff Bender
Writers

Office of Communications and Public Relations

250 University Avenue

California, PA 15419

724-938-4195

wald@calu.edu

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